

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A multi-purpose Cheese—cheese container and dispenser, particularly mature cheese, such as Parmesan-like cheese and the like, characterized in that it comprises comprising:

a container sized and shaped to hold at least one monolithic piece of cheese; and

a grater arranged—rotatably coupled to the container to inviolably close the container and to selectively rotate with respect to the container to grate cheese contained therein;

a cover intended to be sealingly fit, in a removable way, into a respective peripheral seat of a mouth of the container; and

an external disposable casing for housing the container and the grater together with the cover, said external disposable casing comprising a body of a rigid material and a film of plastic material arranged to seal a mouth of the body, wherein the film is adapted to be definitely removed from the body to allow a first grating operation, whereby the film defines a first closure of the container that ensures a long lasting shelf-life of the cheese before the first grating operation,

whereby the cover defines a second closure of the container, the cover being adapted to be removed from the container every time that the cheese is to be grated, and being adapted to be sealingly repositioned on the mouth of the container after every grating operation, and

whereby the container can be filled with the cheese by a cheese vendor, closed with the cover and sealed within the external disposable casing, then the cheese can be delivered, sold, grated and dispensed, all without being touched by human hands.

2. (Currently amended) The cheese container and Cheese—dispenser according to claim 1, —characterized in that it—further comprises—comprising trip coupling means between the grater and the container.

3. (Currently amended) The cheese container and Cheese—dispenser according to claim 1, further comprising characterized in that it comprises pushing means in the container, configured to push the cheese towards the grater.

4. (Currently amended) The cheese container and Cheese—dispenser according to claim 2, characterized in that grater is rotatably coupled to the container wherein the film comprises a multi-layer plastic material with at least a barrier layer.

5. (Currently amended) The cheese container and Cheese dispenser according to claim 3, characterized in that said wherein the pushing means comprises a threaded stem, rotationally integral fixed with respect to the grater, and a pusher plate threadedly engaged by with the threaded stem.

6.-8. (Cancelled)

9. (New) A cheese grater comprising:
a grating means; and
a container having a mouth rotatably coupled to the grating means, the container having a wall defining a cavity for receiving cheese therein, the container having a pair of opposing vanes extending inwardly from the wall toward a center of the cavity; the vanes and the wall defining two partial cavities for receiving two monolithic pieces of the cheese and for fixing the cheese with respect to the container whereby the grating means moves with respect to the cheese when the grating means is rotated about the mouth of the container.

10. (New) The cheese grater of claim 9 wherein the two partial cavities are the same size.

11. (New) The cheese grater of claim 9, further comprising a threaded stem fixed with respect to the grating means to rotate as a unit therewith, and a pushing means threadedly coupled to the stem to urge cheese toward the grating means as the grating means is rotated with respect to the container.

12. (New) A cheese grater comprising:

a grating means;

a container longitudinally extended along a main axis and having a mouth rotatably coupled to the grating means, the container having a wall defining a cavity for receiving cheese therein, the container having a pair of opposing longitudinal vanes extending inwardly from the wall toward a center of the cavity; the vanes and the wall defining two partial longitudinal cavities for receiving two monolithic pieces of the cheese; and

a pushing plate positioned inside the container to urge the pieces of the cheese against the grating means, the pushing plate having two opposing slots each of them being dimensioned to receive with clearance a respective vane of the container whereby the pushing plate is longitudinally guided along the vanes toward the grating means.

13. (New) The cheese grater according to claim 12 wherein the container has a threaded stem fixed with respect to the grating means to rotate as a unit therewith and the pushing plate has a central threaded hole positioned between the vanes, the threaded stem being threadedly engaged with the hole, whereby the pushing plate moves with respect to the grating means when the grating means is rotated about the mouth of the container.

14. (New) The cheese grater according to claim 13 wherein one end of the threaded stem is fixedly engaged in a central hole of the grating means.